

The biography of Sultan Abul Hasan Tana Shah Golconda



Fig. : Tomb of the last Qutb Shahi ruler Abu al-Hasan Tana Shah (d. 1699)

The sacred site of Khuldabad provides a perfect example of how individuals of royalty sought sanctification through the process of being laid to rest within the shrine complex or in the vicinity of illustrious Sufi saints. The first Nizam, Nizam ul Mulk Asaf Jah (d. 1748) who was closely attached to the Chishtis, along with his first

successor Nizam al-Dawla Nasir Jang (d. 1750) and their wives are buried in separate red sandstone enclosures next to the tomb of Shaykh Burhanuddin Gharib (Fig. 35-36). The third Nizam Muzaffar Jang (d. 1751) is buried south of Burhanuddin's tomb, along with his uncle Mutawassil Khan, Iwaz Khan (d. 1730-31), Jamaluddin Khan (d. 1746). In the tomb complex of Shaykh Yusuf al-Husayni Raju Qattal are buried Nawab Marhamat Khan, a governor of Aurangabad, Daud Khan (d. 1715), a governor of Burhanpur, and Abu al-Hasan Tana Shah (d. 1699) the last Qutb Shahi ruler of Golconda who was imprisoned in the Daulatabad fort until his death (Fig. 37).

IN THE PRAISE OF SULTAN ABU AL-HASAN TANA SHAH OF GOLCONDA KINGDOM, HYDERABAD

Since you are the last Sultan of the Qutub Shahi Kingdom
Famous in the world as the last king of Golkonda Kingdom
You are buried in the Doulatabad but famous in the *city
Very popular in the* city like first Sultan Quli Qutub Shah
Hafeez is your admirer written the event of your marriage
In the book Muslim Saints of Hyderabad which is a famous
In which favour is done by Hazrat Syed Raju Mohammed

Abul Hasan Tana Shah

The Eighth Sultan of Qutb Shahi dynasty



Sultan of the Golconda Sultanate

Reign 1672-1686

Coronation 1672

Predecessor Abdullah Qutb Shah

Born 8 October
Hyderabad
(now in Telangana, India)

Died 1699
Daulatabad Fort
(now in Maharashtra, India)

Spouse Badshah Bibi (Daughter

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INTRODUCTION

Abul Hasan Qutb Shah

Abul Hasan Qutb Shah, also known as Abul Hasan **Tana Shah** was the eighth and last ruler of the Qutb Shahi dynasty, sovereign of the kingdom of Golconda in South India. Tana Shah's reign was from 1672 to 1686.

After the siege of Golconda, he was captured and imprisoned at the Daulatabad Fort, where he died in 1699.



Contents

Although his real name was Abul Hasan, he was nicknamed 'Tana Shah' even before he became a contender to the throne of Golconda by his teacher, a Sufi saint called Syed Shah Raziuddin Multani, popularly known as Shah Raju Qattaal. Shah Raju was eighth in the lineage of the Sufi saint Syedna Khwaja

Banda Nawaz Gesu daraz of Gulbarga. Abul Hassan had a good voice and sang well. He also had a certain innocence about him. Shah Raju, therefore, gave him the nickname of 'Tana Shah' which means a child saint.^[1] He was also known as **Tani Shah**, meaning "benevolent ruler".

He is remembered as a popular statesman who did not discriminate against those of another ethnicity or religion. He hired Brahmins as his ministers and generals. For example, Madanna and Akkanna, Brahmin brothers from Hanamkonda, were his most important ministers. Tana Shah gained a place in Telugu literature due to Kancharla Gopanna, nephew of Madanna. Kancharla Gopanna is famously known as "Ramadasu". Ramadasu lived in Nelakondapalli village in Palvancha taluk. Tani Shah hired him as a *tehsildar* (head of a revenue department) of Palvancha taluk. Ramadasu diverted the public funds to construct a Rama temple in Bhadrachalam and for jewelry to adorn the idols of Lord Rama, Sita and Lakshmana. Tana Shah found Ramadasu guilty of misappropriation of public funds and put him in jail. Earlier Tana Shah's father-in-law, Abdullah Qutb Shah, was forced by Aurangzeb to acknowledge the suzerainty of Shah Jahan. His other daughter (that is, younger sister of Tana Shah's wife) was married to Aurangzeb's eldest son Sultan Muhammad.

Siege of Golconda

About the year 1683, Abul Hasan Qutb Shah appears to have become irregular in payment of taxes to the Mughals and his relations with Sikandar Adil Shah also caused concern among

the Mughals. Abul Hasan Qutb Shah consequently refused to be a vassal of the Mughal Empire and prompted Aurangzeb to initiate a campaign to assert the rule of the Mughals on Golconda. He attacked Golconda with his commanders, Nawab Khwaja Abid Siddiqi (Qilich Khan) and Nawab Mir Ghaziuddin Khan Siddiqi Feroze Jung, father and grandfather of Nizam I (Asaf Jah I). Tana Shah defended the fort for eight months, but Aurangzeb succeeded in capturing Golconda at the end in September 1687. Abul Hasan Qutb Shah surrendered and handed over the Nur-ul-Ain Diamond, the Hope Diamond, the Wittelsbach Diamond and the Regent Diamond, making the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb the richest monarch in the world.

Imprisonment and death

Tana Shan was taken as a prisoner and was imprisoned in the Daulatabad Fort (near Aurangabad), where he would die after twelve years of captivity. When the Sultan died, he was not buried alongside his ancestors and other Qutub Shahi Kings but in a modest grave at Khuldabad near Aurangabad.

Shah Raju Qattal Hussaini Sent A Pomegranate For Abul Hassan Qutub Shah but Tanashah Only Ate 14 Pieces So Shah Raju Qattal Hussaini Claimed That Tanashah Will Rule For 14 Years. And Tanashah Only Ruled For 14 Years

With the defeat of Abul Hasan Qutub Shah, the Qutb Shahi dynasty ended and a new Nizam dynasty began in Hyderabad under the control of the Mughal Dynasty.

After the fall of Golconda on 22 September 1687, it became a part of the six Mughal provinces in the Deccan. Mahabat Khan, who was initially the commander of the Qutb Shahi army and had switched loyalty to the Mughals, was appointed the governor of Golconda, laying the foundations for the Hyderabad State under the Nizams by Aurangzeb.

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13. Biography of Hadrat Syed Shah Raju Mohammed Mohammed al- Hussaini Qattal



The mausoleum of Hazrat Syed Shah Raju Mohammed Mohammed al Hussaini

Name and his title :His name is well known and famous as Hazrat Syed Shah Yousuf al Hussaini and his title is known as *Qattal* but he is very famous and well known as Shah Raju Qattal Hussaini. He is connected with Hazrat Khaja Bande Nawaz Gesu Daraz of Gulberga in 8th generation.

Genealogical record

- 1.Hazrat Syed Shah Raju Hussaini.
- 2.Hazrat Syed Shah Safirullah Hussaini.
- 3.Hazrat Syed Shah Raju Hussaini of Bijapur.
- 4.Hazrat Syed Shah Safirullah Hussaini.
- 5.Hazrat Syed Shah Asadullah Hussaini.
6. Hazrat Syed Shah Askerullah Hussaini.
7. Hazrat Syed Shah Safirullah Hussaini.
8. Hazrat Syed Shah Akberullah Hussaini.
- 9.Hazrat Khaja Bande Nawaz Gesu Daraz of Gulberga.

Meaning of Qattal : The title of *Qattal* is attached with so many holy saints and its meaning is to have completion of *Rah Saluk* (mystic initiation). This title is added to the names of such Sufi saints who had done *jihad* (struggle) with their *Nafas* (souls) and this is very great status and so with this title the holy saints were becoming famous and well known. Shah Raju Qattal used to do *jihad* (struggle) with his *Nafas* (soul) and for this reason his name was becoming famous and well known as *Qattal*.

Birth, early education and training :He was born in the year 1002 A.H. in Bejapur city. When he was growing up and he has completed the stages of *zaheri* (outside) and *batini* (inside) education under the supervision of his uncle Hazrat Syed Akber Mohammed Mohammed al Hussain and upon completion of the above education his uncle after his *bait* (pledging spiritual allegiance) has awarded him caliphate. He was great pious personally of his time in the Deccan (South Deccan) region so he was well known and famous as man of miracles and knowledge of Allah and he has connection with Khaja Bande Nawaz of Gulberga in the 8th generation.

Even though this is small chapter but its importance is so great due to the coverage of many interesting events and positive information in it so it is like an ocean of knowledge and information of the above holy saint who passed away from the world upon doing his great endeavours and many hard tasks for the preaching and propagation of Islam in Deccan area so this chapter is small one but it will present the ocean of knowledge and information for the guidance of people towards the right path of Islam. Syed Shah Raju Qattal did many great endeavours and hard tasks in this matter in

Hyderabad and around it so he was perfect in the following things. 1.Zahed (Ascetic). 2.*Taqwa* (piety). 3.Worship. 4.Mystic exercise. 5.Meditation. 6.Engagement.

Arrival in Hyderabad : During the last period of Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah of Golconda Kingdom he was arriving in the city of Hyderabad along with his uncle Hazrat Syed Shah Akber Mohammed Mohammed al Hussaini and his uncle's grave is available in outside of Ghazi Bandung where he is famous there as a great Sufi saint of Deccan (South India) so for this reason people of the Deccan (South India) used to visit the shrine for the fulfillment of their desires and wishes for the sake of the Sheikh's name. Sultan of Golconda Abdullah Qutub Shah has shown him great respect and honour and granted him daily allowance and due to this reason he was free from economic struggle so he was always busy in the worship and meditation of Allah.

His conduct and character. As he was perfect in the following things.

1.Zuhed (Ascetic). 2.*Taqwa* (Piety). 3.Worship. 4.Mystical exercise. 5.Meditation. 6.Engagement.

So for the above reasons the large number of persons used to visit him and become his disciples and devotees . Due to his personality not only poor persons but also rich and wealthy persons were benefitted a lot. And many persons used to get the benefits of both worlds from him as per his *Irdat* (devotion). His presence was a great source of blessing for the mankind. For needy and poor persons he was a great source for them to fulfil their needs and requirements. In his shrine there

were always a large number of disciples and *Darwesh* persons used to present there in large number. For this reason Sheikh used to help them and his service and attention as well favour with them was so great because he used to study their problems and grievances personally and solve them soon by the kind grace and help of Allah. His treatment was very kind to his disciples and *Darwesh* persons and he used to love and like them all sincerely.

His teachings : He was perfect in the knowledge of Islam. He was used to teach in the shrine regularly and in his teaching the following subjects were added.

1.Exegesis (commentary) of Quranic verses. He used to explain the disciples about *Israr* (secrets) and *ramoz* (hints) which are coming to known by generation to generation by *Seena Ba Seena* (secrets) and which were used to disclose to the holy saints of Allah and for this reason the compiler of the book '*Miskawat*' wrote the following details about his shrine and teaching methods which are as follows. "His shrine was always full of disciples and *darwesh* persons and who used to present there for his teaching and preaching work of Islam. His teaching and preaching work of Islam was a great record work of his time that he was busy in this work for a period of 50 years in this matter and in which the following persons used to attend his teaching and preaching classes."

1.General persons.2.Learned persons.3.Poor persons.4.Rich persons. 5.Persons of all *maslak* (school of thought) and belief.

Due to his teaching and preaching work larger number of persons have become his disciples. The [*Talib*](#) (student) used to

make a pledge (*Bay'ah*) to him as his *Murshid* and the *Talib* (student) becomes initiated as a *Murid* and the students used to follow Islamic rules and regulation in their lives as per practice of the Allah's final apostle. He was not only a great pious personality of his time but he was also a great preacher of his time so brief he was great Sufi master of his time in the Deccan (South of India) and who did many great endeavours for the Islamic religion and he was most successful in the preaching and propagation work of Islam in the area of the Deccan (South India) and around this region and there was no such personality during his time.

His teachings : In his shrine he used to teach about *Ilahiat* (metaphysics is a branch of philosophy concerned with explaining the fundamental nature of being and the world, although the term is not easily defined). Traditionally, metaphysics attempts to answer two basic questions in the broadest possible terms: 1. What *is there*? 2. What is it *like*? 1) Due to his teachings and his best style of explanation and for this reason the following things will be removed from the disciples and devotees. 1. *Tang Nazri* (narrow outlook). 2. *Tang deli* (mean nature). Due to the above teachings there will be improvement of the following things. 1. In heart. 2. Insight. Due to above teachings there will be positive results and benefits that the feelings of prejudice and hate as well as mean feelings will be changed into love and affection.

Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah's devotion : Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah was his great devotee and he used to respect and treat him with great honour and for this reason he was

granted many villages for the expenditure of the shrine. He was used to present personally in his shrine occasionally and he used to spend some of his time in the shrine to hear Sheikh's teaching and preaching of Islamic knowledges and his advices.

Prediction : In his shrine there was one young man Abul Hasan and who belongs to the royal family of Golconda and he used to present always in his service. Once Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah was returning from the shrine after his meeting with Sheikh and by chance at that time Abul Hasan came to the shrine so for this reason Sheikh suddenly told that one Sultan is going and another is coming there. So for the above information the disciples were surprised at this matter and but could not able to understand the meaning in this matter. Also the disciples will know well that the words of holy persons will have meaning in it and they do not say anything without meaning and without purpose. The Sheikh has also awarded him the title of small king to Abul Hasan and for this reason all persons in the shrine come to know that Abul Hasan will be going to get his higher status and position in the Golconda kingdom.

Miracles :He was a great mystic person and pious personality of his time. He did many great acts and miracles. We are mentioning herewith Sheikh's great miracle which is as follows. The marriage of second daughter of Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah was proposed with one person Syed Sultan who was relative of his first son in law and due to some strange matter suddenly one day before the marriage Sultan's elder daughter and her husband visited the royal palace has complained about the rude behavior of Syed Sultan and they

requested with him to cancel his marriage offer and they forced him in this matter and for this reason Sultan was very upset and become angry with Syed Sultan and ordered for the cancellation of his marriage with his second daughter. But as a matter of fact the marriage arrangements were ready in the palace as the marriage of Syed Sultan was fixed for the next day. So all these arrangements were cancelled and were stopped suddenly.

As Sultan has cancelled the proposed marriage on the advice of her daughter and his son in law but he was very upset and angry in this matter as the marriage ceremony was fixed the next day but there was no groom available to celebrate the function. So for reason the search of another groom was started in the palace and at last they searched Abul Hasan and he was a member of the royal family and the Sultan has called him for the marriage proposal with his second daughter.

Attention for Abul Hasan : The details of the marriage of Abul Hasan are mentioned as follows. The Sheikh first started the celebration of marriage of Abul Hasan in the shrine before the Golconda palace. So Sheikh has called Abul Hasan on this matter and he came there and with great respect and honour and he has put down his head with great humility and kissed his foot with kind attention and respect. Upon Abul Hasan's arrival in the shrine Sheikh has informed the good news of his marriage with Sultan Abdulla Qutub's second daughter so for this reason the disciples and devotees were surprised in this matter as they could not understand this news as the marriage of the second daughter of the Sultan was fixed by the relative of the Sultan's first son in law and which scheduled to be

celebrated next day . So for this reason all persons in the shrine could not understand the details of the marriage of Abul Hasan with Sultan Abdulla Qutub's second daughter.

In the palace marriage process was started and in the night the ceremony of Mehendi (henna) of the bride was scheduled to be organized.

On the same day at the evening time Sheikh went into the garden which was closed in the shrine area and in which he has looked the flowers and buds there and he was collecting some buds and flower which were good as per his selection and he told Abul Hasan the details which are as follows. “ Abul Hasan : tonight king's daughter will be decorated with medhandi (henna) so come to me so that I will also put some mahnadi (henna) dye on your palms and he was having the flowers of henna and flowers of Abbas (mitabilis jalapa) which he was collected from the shrine garden so he put these flowers on his palms and pressed them for some time to dye henna colour on his palms.

At that time came Sultan's companions and royal police men in the shrine with palanquin and they have asked with the Shaikh about Abul Hasan so at that time Sheikh has told called him as Tana Shah and asked him to go to palace as he has already performed his marriage with the Sultan's daughter and from that time the title of Tana Sha become famous and well known in the Golconda palace.

Upon permission of the Sheikh the royal police and companions who brought palanquin for Abul Hasan and took him in it to Golconda palace and they took him to the royal

bath room for his bath and upon his bath they gave him the robe of honour to wear and after all these process of the marriage they took Abul Hasan to the royal court where all marriage arrangements were ready and were at final situation since many days so the Sultan has given permission to the Qazi (judge) for the completion of bond of the marriage so in this way the marriage ceremony was performed in happy atmosphere and on grand scale and guard of honour were arranged and guns were fired in the Golconda fort on the happy celebration of the marriage of princess of Golconda with Abul Hasan Tana Shah. Upon the marriage the drums and kettle drums were started in the Golconda fort on the happy occasion of the marriage of the Sultan's daughter.

Syed Sultan's anxiety : He was ready with all his arrangements for his marriage with the royal princess of Golconda fort and it was strange that he was not known what was happening in the fort of Golconda and actually he was not known that the princess of Golconda was already married with Abul Hasan Tana Shah. So when he heard the guard of honour then he was surprised at this matter and told his companions that still he is in residence why there is guard honour in this matter?. So the companions have informed him that the princess was already married to another person named as Abul Hasan so you are ignored in this matter and they explained him all details of the event.

So for the above reason Syed Sultan was very upset and angry in this matter and he was very disappointed in this matter and he said that all his wishes and desires of the heart were not fulfilled and due to this reason he was suffering a great loss

in his life. Due to the above situation he decided to take revenge against Sultan of Golconda and wants to do some misdeeds in this matter but his companions have advised him that to be cool down and to have patience in this matter otherwise he will face insult and shame in this matter.

So for this reason he has decided to leave the fort of Golconda for ever due to his great loss and misfortune and he has left the fort of Golconda and travelled to see Sultan Aurangzeb Alamgir and explained him all details of the event which was happened in the fort of Golconda and for this reason Sultan Aurgazeb Alamgir has consoled him and have given some position among his companions and slowly Syed Sultan has improved his position under the rule of Sultan Aurangzeb Alamgir and reached to the post of 7,000 grades position and after some months he was married with the daughter of famous general Mir Jumla.

One fact : Abul Hasan who becomes afterwards as Sultan Abul Hasan Tana Shah and crowned in the year 1083 A.H. in Golconda so it was predicted from a great pious personality of his time which was proved correct by the kindness of Allah and title of *Tana Shah* awarded by Sheikh become well known and famous in the world.

14 Seeds of Pomegranate : It is stated that one day Sheikh has given him one piece of a pomegranate and asked him to count how many seeds are there in it?. So *Tana Shah* has counted them and replied him that there are fourteen seeds in it. So Sheikh told him that your rule over the kingdom of Golconda will be for a period of 14 years only. So it had happened as per

the prediction of the Sheikh and Tana Shah ruled over the kingdom of Golconda for a period of 14 years and his rule was coming to an end in the year 1097 A.H. and in this way Tana Shah becomes the last ruler of the kingdom of the Qutub Shahi dynasty.



The grave of Sultan Abul Hasan Tana Shah in Khuldabad.

Death :To write about this great Sufi saint and great preacher is not only it is difficult and but it is very hard task as he was not only a great pious personality of his time in the area of the Deccan (South India) but he was also a great preacher and he did his preaching work in Hyderabad for a period of 50 years and details of his teaching and preaching work have briefly mentioned as follows. 1.Teaching and preaching. 2.Favour of *Zaheri* (outside) and *Batini* (inside).

So in brief he was Qu'tub (highest cadre in spiritual pivot at axis) of his time in the Deccan region and left the world on 22nd

Safar in the 1092 A.H. in the period of sultan Abul Hasan Tana Shah of Golconda. But some historians have mentioned the date of his death as 7th Jamid Awwal but all have confirmed the year 1092 A.H. is correct as per record of history. He was buried in the shrine which is located in outside of Fathe Darwaza in Misri Gung street Hyderabad and his mausoleum in a Missri Gung area which is famous even today for the fulfillment of desires and wishes of the persons who visit his mausoleum there.

Mausoleum : Abul Hasan Tana has constructed a big tomb over his grave due to his great respect and devotion and tomb was built in the grand style. But still the plastering work is not completed and colourful work of the tomb is also pending and construction work was not completed due to invasion of Sultan Aurangzeb Almagir on the Golconda fort and after the end of the Qutub Shahi Kingdom in Golconda. The height of the tomb and its grand style of construction still attracts the visitors and engineers there and its height is 50 feet high and it is well known and famous that it is a highest tomb in India and the tomb was constructed with stones and it is based on 112 pillars and height of each pillar is 25 feet.

Devotion of kings : As Abul Hasan Tana Shah has personal experience of shrine life so due to predictions of his 14 years of his rule he has granted 14 estates to Shaikh to meet the expenditure of the shrine and Lungar Khana (public kitchen). For the construction and maintenance of the tomb he has granted one village called Maoza Zair Gumbad.

After the end of the Golconda Kingdom, Sultan Aurangzeb Alma Gir upon conquering the Golconda fort renewed old grants of the Qutub Shahi dynasty to the shrine and also granted one more village Kanga Khurd to the shrine custodian Syed Shah Ali Hussain for the shrine expenditure. Alamgir also issued orders for cash grants for the expenditure of the public kitchen at the shrine. So in this way after the end of Qutub Shahi rule the Mughal rule has taken the care and maintenance work of the shrine and sanctioned all expenditure in this matter.

Also after the end of Mughal rule the Asif Jahi rule of Hyderabad was started but in the above 3 rules Hazrat Raju Qattal's *Rohani'* (spiritual) rule was continued and till date there is no change in this matter. So for the above reason King of Hyderabad Nizam Ali Khan has arranged golden klas (spire pinnacle) on the tomb due to his respect and devotion. Fazelat Unnisa Begum, who was the mother of Nasir Doulah on the occasion of the birth of his son has arranged wooden frame around the grave inside the tomb in the year 1208 A.H. and this shows her admiration and also prove her *Irdat* (devotion).

Brief teachings : Hazrat Raju Hussaini was engaged his tongue and his pen in the following. 1. For the welfare and prosperity of the mankind. 2. To restore relations of mankind to the creator. 3. Healthy Society. 4. Prejudice. 5. Narrow mindness.

With the propagation of the above teachings and he was able to stop above bad feelings and promoted good manner and conduct among his disciples and devotees in the Deccan (South

India) and till this date such good things are still available in the Deccan (South India).

Due to the system of the shrine the message of peace and brotherhood was spread not only in the Deccan area but it was spread all over India.

There was changes due to time and the rulers were also changed but the importance of this great Sheikh of Deccan is not be decreased because he was great Sheikh and due to the coverage of his life with many interesting events and positive information in it so for this reason his teaching and preaching are like an ocean of knowledge and information and he was passed away from the world upon doing his great endeavours and many hard tasks for the preaching and propagation of Islam in the Deccan area so his life will present the ocean of knowledge and information for the guidance of people towards the right path of Allah.

So for the above reason his name and fame will remain till the day of judgement and his *rohani* (spiritual) favour and attention will be available to the people of all times in the future by the kind grace of Allah.

The Urs (death anniversary) :The Urs is celebrated on 14,15, 16th Safar every year of the Muslim calendar on the grand scale and on the 14th Safar sandal ceremony is organized and on 15th Safar the lights are illuminated on the mausoleum.

On this occasion people from various walks of life, irrespective of caste and creed, assemble to celebrate the Urs (death anniversary) which takes place on the above dates of Muslim calendar at the famous mausoleum of Hazrat Syed Shah

Raju Qattal every year. Several hundred thousand devotees from near and far, irrespective of religion and beliefs, gather there to seek blessings. During the above ceremony the visitors in large number will visit the shrine for the fulfilment of their desires and wishes for the sake of Sheikh's name so in this way the above ceremony will be celebrated on a grand scale and the visitors will visit the mausoleum from near and far away places. The Urs (the anniversary day) is being performed by the trustees of the shrine every year in the best possible manner in the comfort and best service to the visitors of the shrine. The visitors of the shrine are provided food and benediction on this occasion.

Conclusion :To write about this great Sufi saint is not only it is difficult and but it is very hard task as he was not only a great pious personality of his time in the area of the Deccan (South India) but he was also a great preacher of Islamic knowledge so in brief he was Qu'tub (highest cadre in spiritual pivot at axis) of his time in the Deccan region.

Urdu Reference book :

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